

May 22, 2008

The Board of Public Works & Safety met at 4:00 p.m. on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Tucker presiding and members Askren and Higgins attending. Others attending were Chief Beloit; Comm. Maynard; Chief Waters; Supt. Givens; Ed and Evelyn Cooper; Terri Cooper; Shannon Cooper; Dylan Cooper; Kim Tanner; Chuck Gray; Sara Manifold and Tiffani Eisenhut – Mount Vernon Democrat; and arriving during the meeting, Greg Russell.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minutes of their previous meeting and by asking if there were any corrections or additions. He added if not, he entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented.

Board member Higgins moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented. Seconded by Board member Askren.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker requested action on the claims presented.

Board member Higgins moved the claims presented be allowed for payment. Seconded by Board member Askren.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

*****CLAIMS*****

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the reports of the Departments.

Chief Beloit stated May 15, 2008 was Police Officer Memorial Day and in accordance with that, he would at this time, like to honor former Officer Terry Cooper. He asked Mrs. Terri Cooper and Ed and Evelyn Cooper to come forward, at which time he presented them with a memorial plaque, of which is also being displayed in the police department.

Mayor Tucker stated he knew Terry quite well, from working with him as a police officer, and then as fellow councilman. He added Terry was a good man who gave a lot to the police department and the City of Mount Vernon and he considered him a good friend.

The Coopers all thanked Chief Beloit and Mayor Tucker and resumed their seats.

Chief Beloit continued his report by stating Officer Darrin Lemberg needs to be recertified on repairing their duty weapons. He added Glock Armor School is putting on a class in Plainfield, at the Academy on July 1st, but he would need to go up on June 30th and use the city credit card.

Board member Askren moved permission to attend and use the city credit card be given. Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Chief Beloit continued his report by stating he and Councilman Fuelling sat in the area of the 4th Street construction project on Monday, around 3:10 p.m., and they are still having problems with folks disregarding the stop light. He added it is a hazardous situation and he would like permission for himself and Comm.

Maynard to talk with INDOT about the possibility of closing Mill Street due to these ongoing problems. He stated the only other option would be to position an officer down there full time to write ticket all day.

Board member Higgins stated she noticed today that several cars are now going the bakery parking lot to avoid the back up.

Chief Beloit agreed and added that makes the situation even more hazardous.

Board member Higgins added the bakery will be closing Sunday too.

Greg Russell arrived at the meeting.

Mayor Tucker stated it is fine with him that they contact INDOT if they so choose but he also suggested they get info out to the media before any more streets are closed.

Chief Beloit replied he can put out a new news release.

Mayor Tucker stated closing the north side of Mill does sound like the only solution and he suggested Chief Beloit also contact businesses that will effect.

Chief Beloit replied that would be no problem.

Board consented for Chief Beloit and Comm. Maynard to contact INDOT about possibly closing Mill Street to the north and then get back with the Board.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Chief Waters stated he has no report.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Supt. Givens stated in October 2007 the sewer plant had to start their seven day per week testing and at that time, they had installed two automatic samplers. He continued by stating these samplers are currently being run off extension cords, which is not a good thing. He added he has a quote from Odie Carrier with Carrier Electronics, for \$2,500.00., to run electricity to these samplers. He stated he really feels it is time to take care of this, especially with mowing season coming on, as they don't need to be mowing over the extension cords. He added they are working fine right now, and Mr. Carrier does most of their electrical work, they have used him in the past.

Board member Higgins moved they accept the quote of Carrier Electronics. Seconded by Board member Askren.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Supt. Givens continued his report by stating he has pictures of the recent cat walk work that was done at the plant, along with a letter from Deig Brothers explaining the guarantee on the work that was done.

Supt. Givens then stated he has a letter (bid) that he would like the Board's opinion on concerning the sale of the red S-10 they discussed at the last meeting. He added the Dodge fired up though the transmission is messed up, the worst case scenario is a new transmission would need to be put in at a cost of \$2,500.00. He stated they do need another service truck down out there and if they can get this going, Mr. Moss can use it.

Mayor Tucker asked what year the Dodge was ?

Supt. Givens replied a 1998.

Mayor Tucker stated the S-10 is junk and he feels they should accept the bid for purchase. He added as for the Dodge, he would like Supt. Givens to get some prices together to get it running, new transmission, tires, etc. and see if it would be financially worth it to keep it.

Supt. Givens agreed and added he would also like a second opinion. He added Expressway quoted him \$2,500.00 for the transmission and he would like to see what Ewing Tire has to say.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Comm. Maynard reported Rudolph has been down to look at the streets for possible paving and informed him that the asphalt price has gone up \$6,000.00 from May to June. By waiting one month, to see what kind of financial shape the city would be in, the price increased \$6,000.00. He then stated he has now scheduled the paving to begin in June, they need to move forward.

Comm. Maynard continued his report by stating he met with Bernardin Lochmueller today concerning the application for the sidewalk grant, which is free money, with no city match.

Mayor Tucker stated Comm. Maynard found this grant while attending Road School and it is \$250,000.00 grant with no matching city funds required.

Comm. Maynard stated they will be looking at putting sidewalks in around the West School area.

Board member Higgins stated she has a question about Walnut Street – it was paved last year and this year there is sand on it, why ?

Comm. Maynard replied during Mayor Higgins' administration, as well as Mayor Knowles', the older roads were crack sealed for street maintenance, a chemical is then put on that extends the life of the asphalt, the sand is to protect the vehicles.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any Legals for consideration ?

Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe stated she had a lady come in this week wanting a peddler permit, but she is actually going to be in the city most of the summer, selling educational books. She stated the current ordinance requires a \$10 per day fee. She was wondering if the Board could possibly settle on a fee of \$50 or \$100 for the entire summer. She added she told the lady she would check with the Board and get back with her.

Mayor Tucker stated he feels they should contact Attorney Higgins, as they may be opening a can of worms going against their own ordinance.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any other Legals ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Board ?

Supt. Gray approached and stated he is present on behalf of the Utility Board by requesting permission to close down two parking spaces at the riverfront for 18 months due to the construction of their temporary intakes. He then stated the water department would also like to take part of the street department property, south of the alley next to the water works, south of the white tank. He added he has located 1.9 acres that the water department will purchase for the street department to replace the ground that they will be losing.

Board member Higgins asked when construction on the intakes would begin ?

Supt. Gray replied they are still waiting on their permit from the DNR, but it should be in the next couple of weeks, breaking ground on June 1, 2008.

Mayor Tucker stated the Board may recall the Council has already given their approval and wondered if

Supt. Gray had gotten in touch with the Park department ?

Supt. Gray replied yes, they have no problem with the request.

Board member Askren moved permission to close off two parking spaces on the south west side of the riverfront parking lot for 18 months be given. Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker questioned Supt. Gray's second item, the property purchase.

Comm. Maynard stated the street department is not opposed to this but he would like to see the details worked out first, all the final arrangements need ironed out. He added he is concerned about packer storage, they are limited on space now, but they are willing to work with the water works on this. He added he would still like to meet with Supt. Gray, Mayor Tucker, and Council members Askren and Curtis as soon as possible. He added he is available any time.

Board member Askren stated evenings are best for her and she will get with them on her work schedule.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone else in the Audience wished to address the Board ?

There was no response.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any Old Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated if there was no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn.

Board member Askren moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

John Tucker

Mayor

ATTEST:

Cristi L. Wolfe

Clerk-Treasurer